

7-024 1966 Travellers Letter

Greenways
Knockholt
near Sevenoaks
Kent

October 20th., 1966

Dear Luke,

Lovely to get a letter from you and glad to hear that you are not doing too badly down at the plots. I remember when we were stopped down there with the rest of them and put up a barricade when the Corporation came to pull us out. That was the time the students came and supported us and 12 Corporation men refused to pull out the wagons. Well, things have changed since then because we made a stand together and made people realise what had been happening to travelling families all those years.

I hear from Victor Bewley that the site at Ballyfermot just near you will be ready next Spring and that 40 families may be going onto it. I hope he is working with you to keep up good leadership and influence. They should know by now that you want to do something for yourselves and make a better life.

Well, the movement over here is coming along. On Human Rights Day, December 10th next, we are holding a big meeting in London which will be attended by Vanko Rouda and about all the travellers around will be represented and those who cannot come from Ireland, Scotland and Wales will be sending letters supporting the campaign. The meeting will unite about a thousand families.

We are going to make it known that the travellers are intending to bring their case before the United Nations in order to get their rights to a better life. When we have the support of the United Nations, the governments in Ireland and Britain will have to do something.

As soon as I have more news about the holiday in France I'll let you know. I'll also be sending you copies of the travellers' newspaper which is being published here soon. I hope you can give out copies to everyone who wants to read it, like Gerry, Martin, Ned Reilly and the rest.

We're always thinking of you and the old times
love and best wishes to Mary and the family
and everyone.